

Summer Bulletin '11



A NEW HELPING HAND FOR THE
**SANTA CRUZ
MOUNTAINS'**
REDWOOD HEARTLAND



Photo by Paolo Vescia

Our Mission: Save the Redwoods
League protects and restores redwood forests and connects people with their peace and beauty so these wonders of the natural world flourish.

FEATURES

- 04 Protection:**
A New Helping Hand for the Santa Cruz Mountains’ Redwood Heartland
- 08 Community:**
Noyo Gift Honors Hero Dad
- 09 Conservation:**
Protected, Thanks to Our Members
- 12 Education:**
Sparking Wonder in Youths
- 13 5 Ways You Can Help Protect Redwoods**
- 14 Onto the Trail**

Cover image: Portola Redwoods State Park in the Santa Cruz Mountains shelters a verdant, old forest. The League has protected more than 800 acres of this park, which is on the closure list because of state budget cuts. We’re working to mobilize a response. Meanwhile, the League plans to preserve more young and ancient redwood forest nearby as part of the new Living Landscape Initiative. Learn more on page 4.

Left image: Hikers admire one of the ancient redwood “Trees of Mystery” on land the League needs your help to protect. Learn more on page 11.

Photo by Paolo Vescia



Dear Save the Redwoods League Friends,

In the last issue of the *Bulletin*, I wrote about our race to purchase some of Mendocino County’s last old-growth redwoods, which faced harvest. I’m happy to report that because of your generous support, the League purchased the Noyo River Redwoods by the April deadline. All of us at the League thank you. This success stemmed from the cooperation of so many. You may read more about the Noyo project on page 9.

On page 4, I invite you to learn about another dedicated community with a common vision. The League has joined the Living Landscape Initiative, a group of conservation organizations in and around California’s Silicon Valley working to protect the area’s vast natural resources, including 30,000 acres of redwood forests. This Initiative reminds me of the citizens who united to spur protection of coast redwoods for the first time, in 1902. That year, California established the first park in the current state park system, one that still shelters ancient giants today: Big Basin Redwoods State Park.

As you may know, 70 California state parks are slated for closure because of budget cuts. Of these, 16 are redwood parks. On the plus side, many of the most popular and iconic redwood parks remain open, from Jedediah Smith in the north, to Julia Pfeiffer Burns in the south and Calaveras in the Sierra Nevada. At the League, we are determining how we can best be part of a solution. The long-term outlook for the redwoods remains optimistic, with redwood parks standing as models of excellence in the future, especially with dedicated supporters like you.

Ruskin K. Hartley Executive Director

“Save the Redwoods League” is a registered service mark of Save the Redwoods League. If you have questions about *Bulletin* content, please call our membership department at (415) 820-5800, e-mail membership@SaveTheRedwoods.org, or send us a note in the attached envelope.

Protection

A New Helping Hand for the Santa Cruz Mountains' Redwood Heartland

“Strategic, science-based and collaborative land conservation will let ecosystems as well as local communities thrive in a connected and sustainable manner. The Living Landscape Initiative provides a powerful model to make immediate and significant progress.”

— Julie Packard, trustee of the David and Lucile Packard Foundation and Executive Director of the Monterey Bay Aquarium

Butano State Park in the Santa Cruz Mountains protects lush redwood forest.

Living Landscape Initiative to Conserve 30,000 Acres

For Save the Redwoods League members David and Twyla Weinberg, the burbling stream, old-growth redwoods and soothing quiet of Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve is one of those special places on the planet. In 2008, they generously dedicated a grove in the preserve through the League. Now, David is further helping the preserve by volunteering as a trail monitor.

That's the enchanting power of the Santa Cruz Mountains. This sprawling refuge offers the dramatic beauty of ancient giants and the sparkling Pacific; rich plant and animal life; and scores of places to enjoy these riches. But these benefits face increasingly significant threats of urban sprawl and the accelerating effects of climate change.

So Save the Redwoods League has joined a passionate group of conservation organizations in the Santa Cruz Mountains and around Silicon Valley to protect these resources, including 30,000 acres of lush redwood forests. This new Living Landscape Initiative (LLI) aims to conserve 80,000 acres over

the next 20 years in four key areas in and around Silicon Valley. In addition to the League, the LLI includes The Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, The Nature Conservancy, Peninsula Open Space Trust and Sempervirens Fund.

The LLI leverages each partner organization's expertise to create a sustainable living landscape where people and wildlife benefit from nature; our natural world remains intact and resilient to change; landscapes support clean air and water; and the region's beauty is preserved for future generations.

Timber and Tourism

Historically, redwoods have powered the economy in the Santa Cruz Mountains by drawing loggers and tourists. A California real estate boom and new railroads in the mid-1880s created a huge demand for lumber.

In 1900, concerned citizens formed the Sempervirens Club, (now Sempervirens Fund, an LLI partner) to protect the redwoods now in Big Basin Redwoods State Park. By 1902, their efforts prompted the state of California to acquire 3,800 acres of ancient redwood forests in Big Basin, protecting coast redwoods for the first time and creating the first park in the current state park system.

More than 90 percent of the nearly 200,000 acres of redwood forest in the Santa Cruz Mountains has been cut down at least once. This means most of the redwoods in these mountains are no more than 140 years old. Around 13,000 acres of old-growth and old redwood forests remain, according to a study commissioned by the League. Of this, 3,900 acres are unprotected.

The League first started protecting redwoods in the Santa Cruz Mountains in 1962, purchasing property to add to Big Basin. Since then, we have protected more than 13,000 acres of redwood forest and supporting landscapes here. Sempervirens Fund, which is exclusively devoted to protecting redwood forests of the Santa Cruz Mountains, has collaborated with the League for many years.

Through the LLI, said Reed Holderman, Sempervirens Fund Executive Director, “Sempervirens will continue to work with the League on individual land protection projects, landscape-level planning, and on climate change and other research projects so that our attention is focused on the most important acquisition projects for long-term redwood and ecological protection.”

Protection



Through the Living Landscape Initiative, the League will link redwood forests to preserve larger landscapes in the Santa Cruz Mountains. Larger protected landscapes will help the mountain lion, whose survival in the Santa Cruz Mountains is threatened by habitat reductions.

Priority Areas

In working on the LLI, the League will continue to follow its Master Plan to conserve the Santa Cruz Mountains' old-growth forest and supporting landscapes.

High-priority areas include the watersheds and areas near Portola Redwoods State Park and Butano State Park because they offer excellent opportunities for long-term protection. Our protection of this land will help safeguard federally endangered species, including coho salmon and steelhead trout.

The mountain lion will benefit from our work, too. This top predator in the redwood forest plays a unique role in controlling populations of herbivores such as deer. Found throughout California, these cats need large home ranges with enough cover to hunt. Studies suggest that habitat reductions and limited connections to adjacent home ranges threaten the species' survival in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Through the LLI, the League will link redwood forests to protect larger landscapes in these mountains. These linkages will sustain both wildlife corridors and clean water sources. By protecting these spaces, we will help prevent unchecked urban sprawl.

"We'll also help our landscapes tolerate the effects of climate change," said Emily Limm, PhD, the League's Director of Science and Planning. "The less fragmented forest ecosystems are, the more resilient they will be to change."



Save the Redwoods League has joined four conservation organizations in California's Santa Cruz Mountains and around Silicon Valley to protect vast open spaces, broad biodiversity and dramatic natural beauty in these areas (shown above), including 30,000 acres of lush redwood forests.



A rippling carpet of redwoods covers the Pescadero Creek watershed in the Santa Cruz Mountains. The League plans to protect redwoods in this watershed as part of the Living Landscape Initiative.

Grant Matches Funds

To attract matching funds from the public and private sectors, the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation has generously offered a \$15 million challenge grant for land acquisition and stewardship over the next three years.

"The Moore Foundation's vision and generosity come at a critical time," said Ruskin K. Hartley, League Executive Director. "The establishment of this Initiative will help us accomplish much more in this threatened wilderness, the heart of coastal California. With only 5 percent of Earth's old-growth redwoods still standing, we must work diligently to protect these forests into the future."

Learn more about the LLI at SaveTheRedwoods.org/LLI. Support the LLI by donating to the League's Redwood Land Fund today. Visit SaveTheRedwoods.org/RedwoodLandFund, or send your gift in the attached envelope. Thank you! 🌲

Get Involved

Volunteer for California State Parks as a docent, caretaker or patroller, or choose from many other roles. Call (916) 653-9069 or e-mail vipp@parks.ca.gov, and leave your name and address to receive applications and information about each of the parks.

Your Membership Matters: 2011 Annual Renewal

Thank you for your membership in Save the Redwoods League — your contributions are vital for our work to protect the trees we all love. We hope that you will continue to support the League's programs by renewing your membership when your renewal notice arrives in the mail this fall. You also may renew your membership on our secure Web site, SaveTheRedwoods.org/give.

Community

Noyo Gift
Honors
Hero Dad

Of the \$3.5 million raised from our members to protect the Noyo River Redwoods, the \$1 million lead gift came from the Nancy Eccles and Homer M. Hayward Family Foundation, directed by their children: Robin, Bill, Hope and Wendy.

This extraordinary gift was made in loving memory of their father, who passed away last year at the age of 89. Homer was a community leader, a philanthropic giant and a third-generation California lumberman who successfully ran Hayward Lumber for 48 years. He grew his grandfather's company into the leading supplier of lumber and building materials on the Central Coast.

As a young father, Homer would take his family on Skunk Train excursions through the forest while visiting the other lumber companies in Mendocino County.

"Every tree was near and dear to Dad's heart, but the majestic redwoods always called to him," said his daughter, Wendy. "Homer was a member of the 'greatest generation,' a pillar of the Monterey

"Dad would have loved the idea of protecting the magnificent Mendocino old-growth redwoods, and it is a perfect legacy in his memory."

— Wendy Hayward



Photo by Paolo Vescia

Along the Skunk Train route, the grandchildren of Homer Hayward cut the ribbon to dedicate the Homer Hayward Whistle Stop as their parents watch.

Peninsula community, a hero, a man of integrity, courage and compassion, concerned to the end about everyone else," she said. "Dad would have loved the idea of protecting the magnificent Mendocino old-growth redwoods, and it is a perfect legacy in his memory."

Last May, Homer's closest friends, children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren

gathered to remember their beloved "Papa Bear" with the dedication of the Homer Hayward Whistle Stop along the Skunk Train route from Willits to Northspur. A benevolent and bold carved bear stands proud, among the trees, keeping a watchful eye over the forest. He serves as a lasting symbol of Homer's tenacity, humility, warmth and generosity. 🌲

Conservation

Protected,
Thanks to Our
Members



League members traveled from as far away as New Jersey to support the ancient Noyo River Redwoods that faced harvest along the old-time Skunk Train route. The property is at location 1 on the map on page 11.

Noyo River Redwoods Purchased, Just in Time!

PROPERTY 1

After a tremendous outpouring of support from across the nation, Save the Redwoods League reached the \$3.5 million goal we set to raise from our members and the public to protect the Noyo River Redwoods. We purchased the 426-acre property harboring 123 acres of ancient and old redwood forest on April 27.

This parcel shelters about 30 percent of all remaining old forest in the Noyo River watershed. The redwoods would have been felled if the League had not raised the funds by April 1. Thank you for your contributions and encouragement throughout the campaign!

In this first phase of the property's protection, the League will serve as interim steward and manager. During this time, we will begin restoration and draft management and other restoration plans. In the second phase, we are planning to convey

the property to Mendocino Land Trust for permanent protection.

We are also raising funds for restoration and stewardship of the property's forest and river habitats. If you would like to continue to support this project, we are gladly accepting contributions. Get the latest news and make a fast, secure donation by visiting [SaveTheRedwoods.org/](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/) **Noyo**, or send your gift in the attached envelope. Thank you!



Conservation

The League and LandPaths, the nonprofit landowner, are working to establish an endowment to maintain the Grove of Old Trees. Four groves are still available for dedication. This property is at location 3 on the map to the right.

Protected, Thanks to Our Members (continued)

PROPERTIES 1-4

Save the Redwoods League protected these properties according to the following priorities in our science-based Master Plan. We acquire inholdings, or privately held land inside public land, to provide permanent, complete protection for redwood parks. Protecting old-growth redwood forest, associated watersheds and connecting lands are other priorities for sustaining these fragile ecosystems to benefit wildlife and people. We conserve property that connects protected lands to allow forest plants and animals to migrate and exchange genes with larger populations. The larger gene pool makes the forest more resilient.

2 LACKS CREEK AREA OF CRITICAL ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERN (ACEC) — 120 ACRES

The Tall Trees Grove in Redwood National Park gained more protection after the League facilitated the donation of this property in March.

Highlights: This property increases watershed protection for Lacks Creek, which flows to Redwood Creek and downstream to some of the world's tallest trees in the Tall Trees Grove. The League structured and negotiated the transfer of this property from private landowners to the US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and provided the funds for purchase. This transaction also consolidated

ownership of BLM lands along Lacks Creek. Transfer of the parcel protects the watershed's exquisite habitat for imperiled wildlife, including salmon, northern spotted owls and marbled murrelets.

Value: \$250,000

3 GROVE OF OLD TREES

The League and LandPaths, the nonprofit landowner, are establishing an endowment to maintain this land.

LandPaths purchased this property in 2000 with financial support from League members and other organizations. One of the last groves containing old-growth redwoods in Sonoma County, this 28-acre parcel

protects coast redwoods exceeding 1,000 years of age and 15 feet in diameter. In a new agreement, the League will match up to \$25,000 in funds raised by LandPaths to establish an endowment to maintain this property. Four groves are still available for dedication at this remarkable location; the League and LandPaths will split the donations from these dedications. Our shared goal is to establish the endowment with at least \$325,000. For information on dedicating a grove, contact Megan Ferreira at mferreira@SaveTheRedwoods.org or **(415) 820-5809**.

Redwood Groves Dedicated between June 15, 2010, and June 14, 2011

Big Basin Redwoods State Park
John Down Luckhardt Memorial Grove

Butano State Park
Teller, Sophie, Matthew and William Grove

Humboldt Redwoods State Park
Che and Mary Su Grove

Jedediah Smith Redwoods State Park
Ruth Cottrell Morris Memorial Grove

Limekiln Redwoods State Park
Carl and Susan Elliger Grove

Prairie Creek Redwoods State Park
Flory Family Grove

Purisima Creek Redwoods Open Space Preserve
Amanda M. Dauber Memorial Grove
Cheney-Hart Grove
Ludemann-Gunther Family Grove
Mario and Grace Magnaghi Memorial Grove

Wilder Ranch State Park
Katherine W. and Lawrence C. Merriam Grove



4 REDWOOD NATIONAL PARK — 2.5 ACRES

Important habitat for imperiled salmon was protected when the League purchased this inholding last May.

Highlights: This property inside Redwood National Park is at the confluence of Prairie Creek and Lost Man Creek. Prairie Creek is highly valued as spawning and rearing habitat for imperiled coho and Chinook salmon, as well as steelhead trout. To reduce flooding here, the creek was channelized. Acquisition of this parcel and others along Prairie Creek will allow for eventual restoration of the waterway's natural path. Visible from Highway 101, the property is an important scenic gateway for visitors from around the world. The Prairie Creek watershed has long been a League priority. We have protected almost 17,000 acres in Redwood National and State Parks since 1923.

Value: \$485,000

Help Us Save This Redwood Forestland

PROPERTY 5

Save the Redwoods League is working to purchase this redwood forestland in urgent need of protection according to our science-based Master Plan. We need your help — we cannot save these redwoods without your support.

Please visit our secure donation page, **[SaveTheRedwoods.org/](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/)** **RedwoodLandFund**, or send your gift in the attached envelope. Thank you!

5 SINKYONE WILDERNESS STATE PARK — 957 ACRES

Why It's a Priority

Purchase of this \$5.5 million property would expand protection of the southern end of the Lost Coast, the longest unroaded stretch of land in the 48 contiguous states. The parcel's protection would extend the Lost Coast by about 1 mile, facilitate realignment of the California Coastal Trail off Highway 1 and onto a more scenic route, and ease public access to the state park. Several imperiled species that live here, including the northern spotted owl and steelhead trout, would gain more protection, along with the unusually shaped ancient redwoods known as the Trees of Mystery, and Shady Dell Creek, a tributary of Usal Creek. *See the photo on page 2.*

Education

Sparking Wonder in Youths



Photo by Melanie Russell

Ingrid Stearns (background), a docent for a League grantee, leads a tour at Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve.

Ingrid Stearns, a docent for a Save the Redwoods League grantee, recalled a moving experience when she took kids on a walk through the redwoods this year.

Volunteering through grantee Stewards of the Coast and Redwoods, Stearns was teaching the group about Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve.

“The children were from a disadvantaged area,” Stearns said. “We got to a place in the forest that had many ferns, and I asked the children if anyone knew what kind of plants they were. They didn’t even know what a fern was. It made me realize how important it was to have them come to the redwood forest and learn about it.”

It’s this discovery that Stearns and other docents at Armstrong bring annually to more than 2,200 K–12 students from the San Francisco Bay Area. Many of the 6,800 students who make reservations through Stewards have never seen a redwood forest before, even though they live nearby.

League members’ support connects these students and others with redwoods so they get to know these natural wonders, with the hope that they become the forest’s ongoing supporters.

Last year’s \$3,000 League grant supported Stewards’ docent-led program at Armstrong. A nonprofit organization, Stewards provides environmental education and stewardship programs for California State

Parks’ Russian River District. The League has awarded grants to Stewards since 2004, serving more than 15,000 people.

In the Armstrong program, docents lead groups through the old-growth redwood forest, teaching them about the trees, other plants, animals and local history.

Last year’s grant also supported expansion of Stewards’ activity-based Redwood Ecology Program at local schools. In that program, all first-, second- and third-graders visit Armstrong up to five times during the year. They meet park staff members and learn about animals in the redwood ecosystem. For instance, they visit a pond to learn about the life cycle of frogs. To learn about the water cycle, they learn a song. Developing skits is the final activity to reinforce the lessons.

Introducing redwoods to youths is important, Stearns said.

“If I can make an impression in the mind of even one young person,” she said, “I feel I have helped to make a difference for the future of the redwoods.” 🌲

5 Ways You Can Help Protect Redwoods



DONATE
to Save the Redwoods League.

PLAN
a gift in your will for Save the Redwoods League.

TALK
to your friends about the League’s work.

VISIT
the redwood forest with your friends and family.

EXPLORE
volunteer opportunities in redwood parks.

To learn more, visit [SaveTheRedwoods.org/help](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/help) or call us at (888) 836-0005.

Photo by Julie Martin

Give the Gift of Redwoods This Holiday Season

Give the gift of membership in Save the Redwoods League; have a redwood seedling planted in a California redwood park; or dedicate a redwood tree or grove to a loved one. Visit [SaveTheRedwoods.org/give](https://www.savetheredwoods.org/give) or call us at **(888) 836-0005**.

Charitable Giving through Your IRA

If you are 70 1/2 or older, you can make a charitable gift in 2011 by transferring up to \$100,000 directly from an IRA to the League and your other favorite charities. You benefit because this transaction is not reported as taxable income. In addition, you can use this transfer toward your minimum distribution requirements. Just contact your IRA custodian and request that an amount be transferred to the League. For further information, call Sharon Rabichow at **(888) 836-0005**.

Onto the Trail

Tall Trees Loop Trail, Redwood National Park

Thanks to our members, Save the Redwoods League recently facilitated the donation of a property that buffers the Tall Trees Grove, home of some of the world's tallest trees. See page 10.





114 Sansome St Suite 1200
San Francisco CA 94104
SaveTheRedwoods.org

DONE READING
THIS NEWSLETTER?
PASS IT ON!

SAVE PAPER: GET YOUR BULLETIN ONLINE
BY SIGNING UP FOR REDWOOD MATTERS AT
SAVETHEREDWOODS.ORG/SIGNUP.



Save the Redwoods League printed
this publication with soy inks on
chlorine-free, 30 percent
postconsumer recycled paper.

If you must print this electronic version, please
help conserve our forests by reusing paper or
choosing recycled, chlorine-free paper made
from postconsumer waste.

New Online: Our Citizen Science Project, Enhanced Redwood Maps, Restoration Videos

Take photos of redwoods anywhere, and help
scientists study the trees as climate changes — get
started: SaveTheRedwoods.org/redwoodwatch. Our
maps of the redwood regions include hundreds of
forest facts, photos, search-by-location and transit
directions: SaveTheRedwoods.org/maps. Three
videos show how we're helping to restore Mill Creek
forest: youtube.com/savetheredwoods.

Sign up for Our Free E-Newsletter, Get a Chance to Win a Prize!

Special offer for **nonmembers**: Win a high-quality
League tote bag, water bottle, hat, greeting cards or
audio tour. Visit SaveTheRedwoods.org/signup11

Using your camera or your iPhone and the
new Redwood Watch application, you can
take photos of redwoods anywhere and help
scientists study the forest.

